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COUNTRY USSR (Lithuania SSR)

SUBJECT Conscription in Lithuania and Military Preparations
in the Baltic

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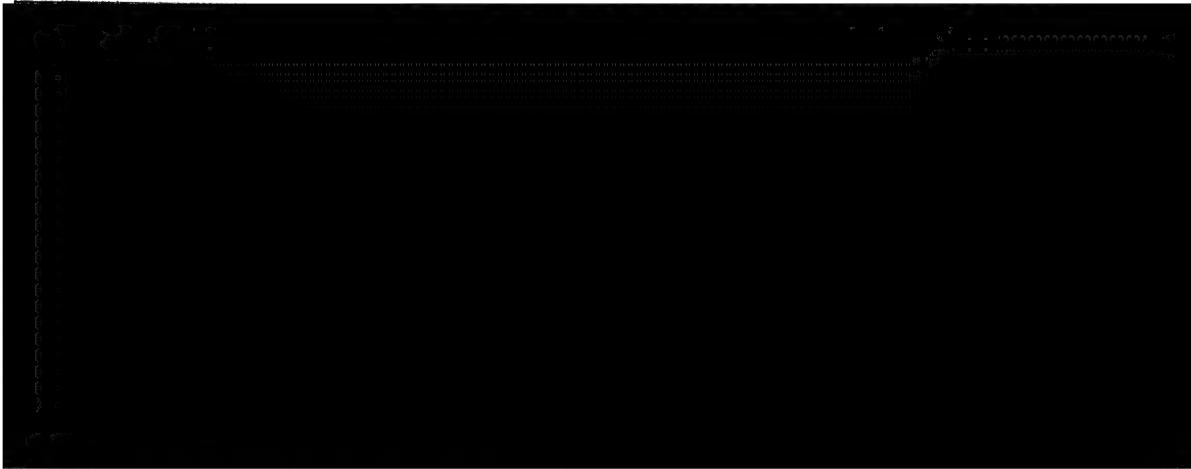
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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. A sharp intensification in Soviet military preparations in Lithuania has been noticeable since late 1949 and the spring of 1950. This is apparent in, among other things, the complete absence of woolen clothes for civilian purchase at any price, the concerted collection and baling of hay for stockpiles, and new drastic call-ups for military service.
2. Prior to 1949 the regime was liberal with exemptions from military service in Lithuania. Only half or slightly more than half of the classes of 1927, 1928, or 1929 were called, but very few exemptions have been made for the classes of 1930 and 1931, and all those exempted in previous classes have been called in what is virtually a clean sweep of men of military age. Even members of the militia have been called to service, as well as all students except those in the final year of university or gymnasium work. In February 1951, for the first time, some doctors were called into service in the city of Panevezys. Also in 1951 for the first time, a number of reservists were called from the fishing industry in Klaipeda, although fishing is a preferential industry and the regime is exerting considerable efforts to expand it.
3. It is common knowledge in Lithuania that Kaliningrad is "full" of tanks, field guns, and naval, army, and air personnel (particularly the latter). The shortage of quarters and food is so acute that many airmen maintain their families in Lithuania, or else go there to obtain food.

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